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09/190,138	11/12/1998	H. WILLIAM BOSCH	029318/0109	6300

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EXAMINER

ALSTRUM ACEVEDO, JAMES HENRY

ART.UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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12/26/2006

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/190138

EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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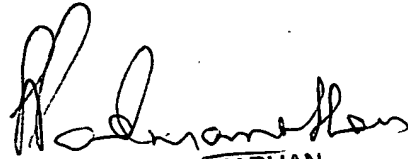
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Commissioner for Patents

Examiner Alstrum-Acevedo took over prosecution of the instant application after the mailing of a final office action on January 14, 2004. Review of the prosecution history by the Board of Patent Appeals & Interferences (BPAI) found that the record was unclear as to whether the reference listed on the IDS submitted on June 24, 2003 (i.e. U.S. Patent No. 6,001,336) and the Soviet Union abstract 628930 listed on the IDS submitted on September 27, 1999 were considered. Soviet Union Abstract 628930 (i.e. SU 628930) was not found in the electronic file, and therefore the instant Examiner has concluded that it was not originally provided. Examiner Alstrum-Acevedo obtained an English language abstract of SU 628930 from the Derwent database (copy provided herewith) and has considered this reference and initialed next to the reference listing on the enclosed PTO-1449 for the sake of expediting prosecution. U.S. Patent No. 6,001,336 has also been considered. Neither reference merited reopening prosecution.

A supplemental Examiner's Answer, which includes and rejects claims missing from the previous Examiner's Answer (but which claims were rejected in the Final Office action) is being prepared and will be issued shortly.


SREENI PADMANABHAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER